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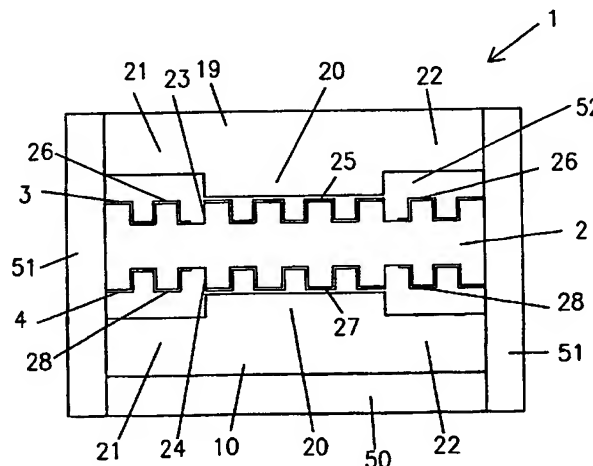
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(54) Title: TACTILE SENSOR ELEMENT AND SENSOR ARRAY



(57) Abstract: A tactile sensor element is disclosed comprising a first pressure transfer layer and a second pressure transfer layer, an elastomeric body arranged between the first and second pressure transfer layers, the body having a first and a second surface opposed to each other, the first and second surfaces having corrugations to allow displacement of elastomeric body material in a predetermined direction perpendicular to the corrugations when exposed to a contact pressure on at least one of the surfaces, a first electrode arranged on the first surface and the second electrode arranged on the second surface, the first and the second electrodes being connectable to external means for determining the capacitance of a capacitor formed by the elastomeric body and the electrodes, where at least one pressure transfer layer has at least one portion of increased thickness. Further disclosed is a tactile sensor array comprising a plurality of sensor elements according to any of the above claims, wherein the sensor elements are arranged in a row and column configuration for the determination of local pressure variations over the surface area of the sensor array, and wherein the plurality of sensor elements being integrally formed in a common elastomeric body member.

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